The Christmas 2013 Edition e-dispatches

The Jolly Boat

Regina Maris 1908-2002

news for The Regina Maris Society (est 2013)

The Jolly Boat No. 16 Dec 2013

Christmas 1969 Card

Christmas 1966 at Sea

Right to Left â€“ Shipmate1, Peter Wilson, Terry Leggett, Mike White, Shipmate2, Shipmate3., Ivar Johnson, Hans Schaubel Photo: Roger Callan

Cook Roger Callan prepared this Christmas Cake while Regina was at sea voyaging between Rio de Janero and Montevideo. The table is set in the below decks mess.

Christmas 1970 Card

The Magnificent Seven of the Regina Maris--On The Beach

Santa Barbara, Curacao Sept 1970 Photo: Klaus Peter Hanusa

Pictured Left to Right-- Joachim Bliese (Steward), Henk Manussen Jr, (crew), Klaus Peter Hanusa (photographer & cinematographer), Roger Callan (First Mate), Tim Nossiter (crew), Paul Maskell (Second Mate), Tim Pickthall (crew).

--Roger Callan, First Mate, shared these details:
"This picture was taken in Curacao our first free time after sailing

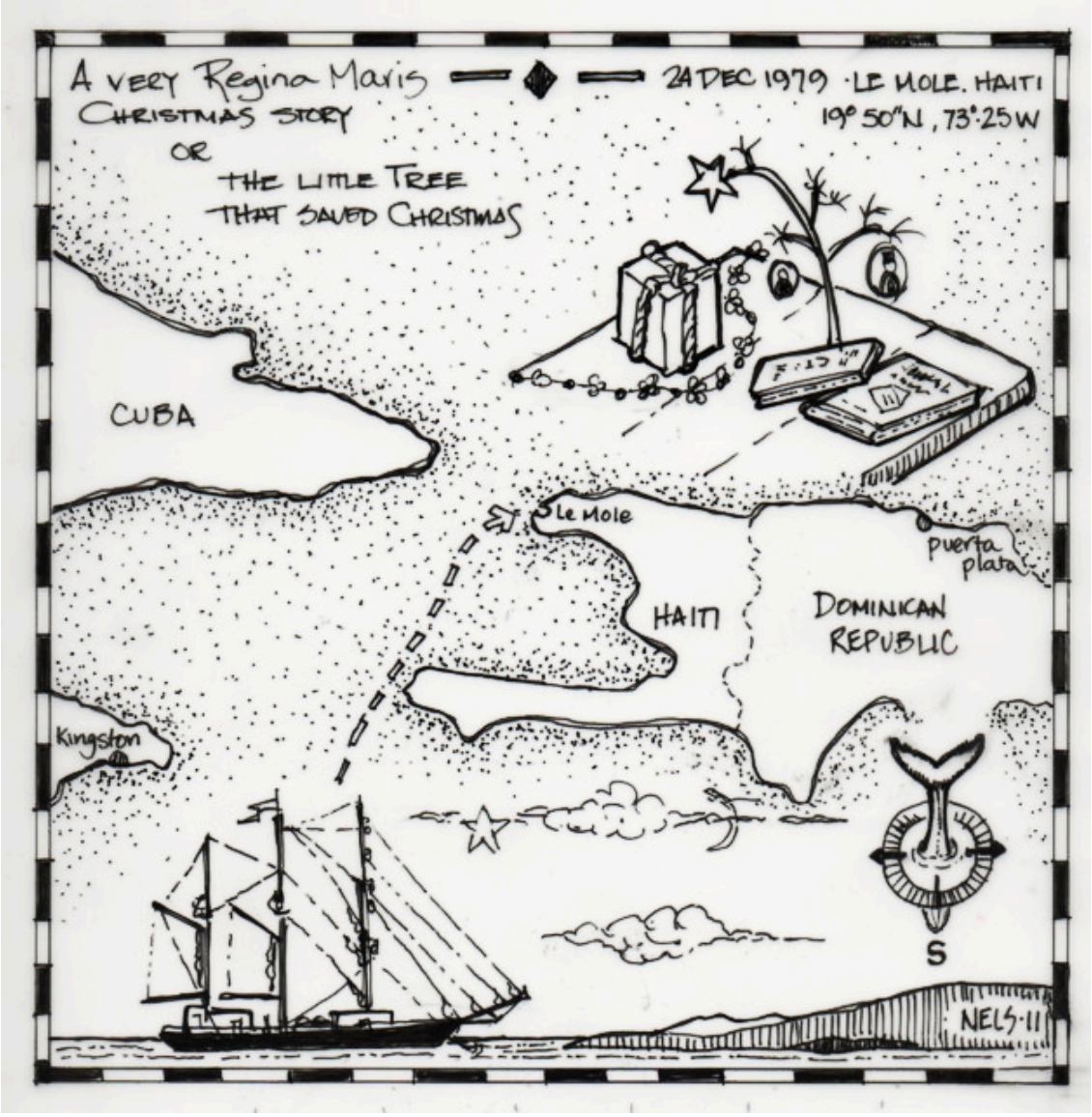
Regina Maris with a reduced crew from Talara, Peru, to Curacao. The Magnificent Seven reunited later in Berlin in January 1971 for a 3 day event.!! Since then our ways have parted. Some of us though, have found ourselves again through the facebook site â€œFriends of Regina Marisâ€□ and were at reunion in September 2013"

Christmas 1976 in Boston

Christmas of 1976 was the first Christmas that Regina spent as the research ship of ORES. After an initial trans Atlantic voyage to her new home port of Boston and a first research voyage north, maintenance and repairs delayed her first trip south to the Silver Banks until after Christmas. Crew and volunteers worked through the Holiday Season ready to ready her for a memorable winter voyage south.

Boston Dec 1976
Christmas tree on the bowsprit
Photo: Marc Orbach

Christmas Eve 1979 in Haiti



A Very Regina Christmas Story
or
The Little Tree That Saved Christmas

The crew were pretty grumpy as we headed north out of the Panama Canal. Hopes of spending a wild reggae Christmas in Kingston, Jamaica had recently been dashed (rumor was that there was a lien on Regina in Kingston), so on the morning of 24 Dec 1979, we found ourselves dropping anchor in Bahia du Mole, that little bay at the western tip of the northern peninsula of Hispaniola. Aboard were just a transit crew moving Regina from Panama to Puerto Plata. DR.

Most of us were able to get ashore into the village of le Mole sometime during the day. The village was a poorest of the poor community where what passed for a town market consisted of a few local women with small piles of corn kernels sitting in the dirt--both the women and the corn kernels were sitting in the dirt., No electricity. No stores or even vendors selling bits of scrap metal. And no phones. Bummer. All of us

away from family with no way to communicate with home, no ability to buy gifts to exchange, or even decorate the ship.

But then late afternoon, from the rail of the anchored Regina, a crowd could be seen trailing someone down the beach toward the inflatable. At the head of the crowd was first mate Tad Pennoyer carrying a scrawny pine tree. Seems that he had gone out and cut the tree down to bring back to the ship, but quickly agitated locals came after him, insisting the the owner of the tree to be compensated. Tad literally gave them the shirt of his back (yes, a Regina T-shirt) and leaped into the security of the inflatable for a quick retreated back to the ship.

The tiny Charlie Brown tree was immediately provided a place of honor on the main saloon table.Christmas had arrived. All pitched in scrounging up materials for making ornaments and trimmings. Ships cook Emile Amarotoco.contributed popcorn and berries for garlands strung together with sail needles and waxed thread. A recent Time Magazine procured in Panama provided plenty of color mug shots that were trimmed down into angels (actual and fallen) ornaments hung from the branches. Among the angel ornaments were the Ayatollah and the deposed Shah of Iran. (This was the winter of the Iran Hostage Situation and the deposed Shah of Iran was currently hiding out on a Pacific island off of Panama). I think the Pope also made it onto the tree to promote a bit of good will.

The holiday festivities fell into place with the little tree presiding. A splendid dinner with ample alcohol (fabulous pina coladas and perfectly awful Panama beer) was followed by a White Elephant Gift Exchange with everyone digging deep into their duffels and into the recesses of their bunk cubbies to find personal treasures to share. With each person able to choose an already opened gift when their turn arrived, good natured greed became the name of the game as the best treasures changed hands at every turn amid peals of laughter. Story Time was sponsored by the Jean Shepherd Literary Society** and consisted of first, a reading of Jean Shepherd's Christmas Story, â€œDuel in the Snow. or Red Ryder Nails the Cleveland Street Kid,â€□ and then followed by the other Christmas Story, from the Bible.

Dark, now, some of the crew went ashore to check out the bonfire on the beach which was the only light ashore. Those of us left on anchor watch spent most of the late evening watching the silhouetted forms locals and Regina-ites joyously dancing together around the fire to the drums of an Island Christmas

All in all a wonderful Christmas shared by a bunch of travelers on a little ship far away from home and families. Yup. That was a great Christmas shared with good shipmates.

Happy Holidays, Everyone!

--as recalled by Steve Nelson on 12 December 2011

****The Jean Shepherd Literary Society** was a fictitious organization of crew and students that operated aboard Regina during the fall of 79 and spring of 80. Meetings were held irregularly while at sea or whenever crew could not get ashore for more exciting entertainment. Readings were short stories from "In God We Trust, All Others Pay Cash" and "Wanda Hickey's Night of Golden Memories and Other Disasters", both by Jean Shepherd. For those of you who want hear Shep himself read â€œDuel in the Snow. or Red Ryder Nails the Cleveland Street Kid,â€ on another distant past Christmas Eve, here's a link to a recording from his WOR radio show.
(https://soundcloud.com/yuleblog/duel-in-the-snow)

Christmas Day Menu 1979

From the menu planning notebook of cook Emile Amarotico

CHRISTMAS
TUES 12-25

BREAK

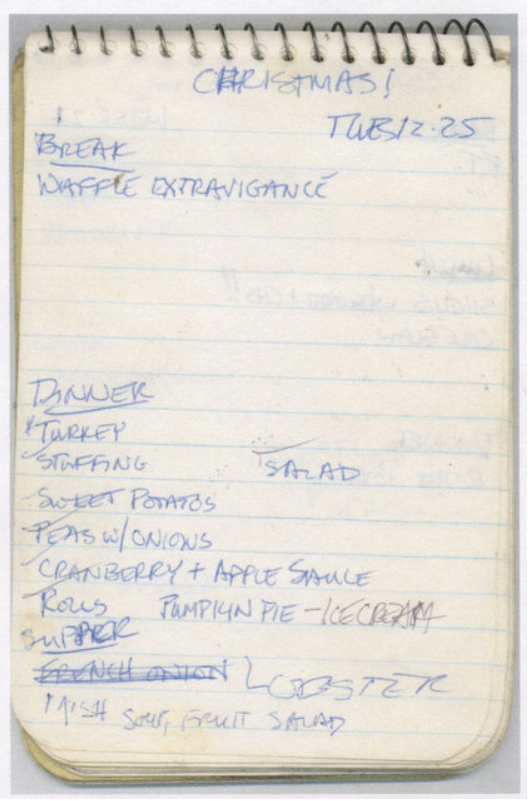
- WAFFLE EXTRAVIGANCE

DINNER

- TURKEY
- STUFFING SALAD
- SWEET POTATOES
- PEAS W/ ONIONS
- CRANBERRY + APPLE SAUCE
- ROLLS PUMPKIN PIE - ICE CREAM

SUPPER

- LOBSTER
- MISH SOUP, FRUIT SALAD



Christmas Day 1979 in Haiti

From the personal journal of Emile Amarotico, Emile was cook aboard Regina from October 6, 1979 to January 2, 1980.

"December 25, 1979

"Well, it is Christmas.

"Christmas in Cap St. Nicholas Mole, Haiti. The last place Iâ€™d have expected to spend Christmas six months ago.

" And actually a very good place to spend Christmas.

"Cap is in a secluded fairly sheltered little bay. Surrounded by hills and plateaus very similar to those of the Grand Canyon. The village is spread out over a crescent of beach where it is sandy and gravelly, as opposed with the rest of the bay which is close on rock and cliffs. Among the cliffs are several old bunkers and fortifications dating from Admiral Nelsonâ€™s time. All in all, a very pretty and remote place.

"Last night I attended a dance in the village with a lot of the younger blacks in attendance. Drank beer and spoke with quite a few of the men. Was also pulled out on the dance floor by a few of the older women and was surprised at how lively they could be. Enjoyed shaking a leg very much, as itâ€™s been a while!

"As a crew weâ€™ve made a very memorable Christmas of it, cocktails before Christmas Eve Dinner, lots of good conversation, joking and many attempts at caroling! I also shaved my beard off, to my own surprise as I did the very same thing last Xmas Eve. Am amazed how different I look, and whether because of the change or the truth, feel that I do in fact look better for it. My beard had really grown in this last time, since starting it in April, whilst with (friend) Bob M. at the Grand Canyon. I left on the mustache this time, though ever so slight it may be.

"Now we await eggnog, dinner (see attached menu), a biblical reading, a Jean Shepherd Society reading with presents, and a White Elephant Gift Swap Meet. Should be fun.

"Then I suppose tomorrow morning we set sail for Cap-Haitien, to do some sight seeing, then on to Puerto Plata

(Dominican Republic) and the end of my cruise on Regina Maris. As we know, a much anticipated step."

Ahoy, Regina-ites!

Merry Christmas!

Ahoy!

Coming up in the Jan 2014 Jolly Boat:
Order instructions for replica Regina T-shirts

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